

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00628 031054Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 INT-05 OES-07 PM-05 DODE-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /044 W
-----006442 031225Z /50
R 031035Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
SECSTATE WASHDC 4297
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, MU
SUBJECT: OMANI INTEREST IN UAE WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT

REF (A) MUSCAT 504, (B) ABU DHABI 1040, (C) ABU DHABI 1052,
(D) STATE 103921

1. SUBSTANCE OF REF D IS BEING CONVEYED BY LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI. EARLIER, HOWEVER, E/C OFFICER HAD CALLED ON DR. REMY DE JONG, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL. THIS AGENCY IS HOUSED IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, PETROLEUM AND MINERALS, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL MINISTRIES PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNCIL. E/C OFFICER SUGGESTED THAT DE JONG CONFER WITH DAVIS IF FORMER WERE PLANNING TO BE IN DUBAI. DE JONG SAID HE HAD NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO VISIT THE UAE BUT THAT HE WOULD CERTAINLY CALL ON DAVIS, WHOM HE KNOWS, SHOULD HE GO.

2. DE JONG KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE ZAWAWI APPROACH. IN FACT, HE WAS PUZZLED JUST HOW OMAN WOULD PAY FOR THE WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT. HE IS PRESENTLY TRYING TO SCALE DOWN PLANS FOR FLOOD PROTECTION AND WATER RECHARGE DAMS ALONG THE BATINAH COAST, BECAUSE FUNDS DO NOT
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PERMIT LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT AMBASSADOR WOLLE WAS RIGHT IN SUSPECTING THAT THE IDEA OF A WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT WAS A PALACE INITIATIVE. IT MAY NOT BE FULLY THOUGHT OUT, AND BESIDES, FUNDS ARE CURRENTLY LACKING. GIVEN SOURCE OF APPROACH, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSAL IS WORTH PURSUING TO SEE

IF FUNDS WILL BE FORTHCOMING AND A VIABLE PROJECT OBTAINABLE.
SIZER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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